



T H E  
**Caledonian Mercury**

BEING  
A short Account of all the most considerable News,  
Foreign and Domestic.

*Edinburgh, Monday November 25, 1723.*

*From the Evening Post, Nov. 19. 1723.*

*Since our last arrived three Mails from Holland, two from Flanders, and one from France*

*Vienna, Nov. 10.*

**T**HE Imperial Court has been informed by their Minister at Hanover, that the Kings of Great Britain and Prussia have made a Convention concerning the Affairs of Religion in the Empire, as also that their Majesties are taking farther Measures for securing the Tranquillity of Europe.

*Petersburg, Nov. 1.* The late Czariana, Sister-in-law to our Monarch, died on the 24th Instant. This Day the Corps of that Prince was exposed to publick View, upon a very rich Bed of State, at Night the same is to be interr'd with great Funeral Pomp in the Cloister of Alexander Nesky,

*Rome, Nov. 6.* An English Monk has been taken up here on Suspicion of holding a Correspondence with the Court of Great Britain, and acquainting them with all the Intrigues he could discover: All his Papers have been seized and he confined in a Convent.

*Hanover, Nov. 22.* The King of Prussia is returned from Gohr to Berlin. 'Tis talk'd that his said Majesty has concluded an Alliance with our Court, into which some other Potentates will be invited. We hear the King of Great Britain will not set out on his Return to England before the middle of next Month, but the Lords Townshend and Carteret will depart some Days sooner.

This Day at Noon S. S. Stock was 113, one half. South Sea Annuity 99, 3 quars. Bank 120, 1 8th. India 136, one half. African 13, one quar. York Buildings 13, 1 8th.

*From*

*From the Flying Post.*

*Continuation of what we had in our last.*

III. Mazanderon is a lovely Country on the S. of the Caspian Sea, water'd by many Springs and Rivulets that fall into it, and has 20 Cities, the chief of which being of its own Name, it is said to contain 5000 People, but others make it to be Farabath, where the Vessels which trade to Gilan, Astarabat, Baku and Astracan are said to lade and unlade. Here are many fruitful Tracts of Land in this Province, which some say is marshy, and annoy'd with swarms of Insects that infest the Air, and that both this and Gilan are subject to the Fever and Dropfy.

VI, Astarabat has the Caspian Sea likewise on the N. is extended by some Geographers, above 60 Leagues on the Caspian Shore, and 100 within Land; and others carry it as far as Independent Tartary, and make it to contain 12 fine Cities, of which we have no Account.

*From the Whitehall Evening Post.*

Lisbon, Oct. 14. 'Tis given out, That by the Treaty of Commerce, the Negotiation whereof is entrusted to the Emperor's Envoy at this Court, the Count de Vinos: The Oriental Company of Vienna may take on board in the Ports of Istria, Quick-Silver, Copper, Lead, Hemp and Flax, to bring those Commodities hither, together with Silks of the Kingdom of Naples and Sicily. 'Tis added that this Minister is ordered to obtain of the King, That the Port of Goa be declared a free Port, in Favour of all the Vessels which the New Company of Commerce in the Netherlands shall send to the East Indies.

Cambray, Nov. 11. The Baron de Bentinrider is expected here from Paris on the 13th Instant; he having been there this Fortnight past, about Affairs relating to the Congrels, which 'tis not doubted here, will be opened in a short time.

London, Nov. 16. Our Merchants have Advice, That the Nostra Signiora de Nativadada and Almus, Capt. Joseph Oliveira, and the Nostra Signiora de Benha de Francis, two outward bound Brazil Ships were taken on the 25th of August last, two Days after they sailed from Lisbon, by three Algerin Corsairs; one of which carried them away, while the two others stood after the other Portuguese Ships, being in all five Sail.

On Thursday Morning last, two Stage Coaches coming for London, whereof one from Bristol, were attack'd and rob'd near Hartly-row by two Highwaymen, who took from the Passengers about 50 l. in Money, besides their Watches, Swords and Rings.

*From the Flying Post.*

Moscow, Oct. 11. They write from Astracan, That the Muscovites engaged the Troops of Meriweis in a Defile beyond Derbent, and obliged them to retire; and that the Usurper has lost a great Part of his Army by Defection. There came Stores enough by the last Convoy to Astracan to serve the Czar's Army eight or nine Months. Letters from Constantinople say, that Achmet, who is the Grand Seignior's Cousin and General of his Troops on the Frontiers of Persia, has sent to acquaint the Grand Visier, that there have been some Hostilities between the Turkish and Muscovite Forces in Georgia, which being complain'd of to the Czar's Resident, he made Answer, that those Hostilities were committed contrary to the Czar's Intention, because he had given express Orders to his Generals not to molest the Ottoman Troops, except when they found them in Company with the Forces of the Usurper.

*From*

*From the Weekly Journal, or Saturday's Post.*

They write from Stockholm, That before the breaking up of the Diet of Sweden, the Affair of the Succession of that Kingdom, long talked of, was brought upon the *Tapis*, at the pressing Instance of Monsieur Bestuchof, Minister of the Czar of Muscovy; but the Conclusion of this important Business is still kept in Secret, all that is known of the Matter is, that on the 23d of October, the Marshal of the Diet acquainted the Nobles, that the Czar, by his Ministers, had made most pressing Solicitations to have the Duke of Holstein declared Successor, in case their Majesties should die without Issue; and, that this Proposal having been offered to the King and Senate, the same was refer'd to the States, and that it being an Affair of such Nicety and Consequence, it would be proper to commit it to a Secret Committee: After many Debates, the Motion was consented to, and after they had taken three Days to consider of it, they communicated their Resolution to the Marshal; and upon consulting with him, judged it not proper as yet to make the said Resolution Publick; wherefore the Marshal acquainted the Diet in a Body, That the said Secret Committee and Senate had come to a Resolution, which they were sure would tend to the Honour of their Majesties, the true Interest of the Kingdom, and to the entire Satisfaction of his Highness the Duke of Holstein; but nevertheless, the Affair was of such a Nature, that they could not as yet let them know the Result of the said Resolution.

This Answer inflamed some of the Members, who warmly urged against the Nature of their Proceedings, taking Notice, that it was by their Deputation and Authority the Secret Committee and Senate had a Power of deciding it, and therefore could not refuse communicating it to the Diet. This occasioned new Debates, and they came at length to put the Question, whether the Resolution should be communicated or no, and having divided upon it, it was carried in the Negative, by a great Majority, so that the Result is not known, and the Diet broke up the same Day.

Upon the whole Matter, the Partizans of the Duke of Holstein flatter themselves, that this Resolution is more in Favour of that Prince than was at first expected, and that this Caution of the Committee is taken, least a private Grudge should be ow'd them from the Court Party for this extraordinary Step.

We hear from Newstadt, that the violent Rains have swelled the Brooks and Rivers thereabout, more than has been known: A new married Couple going home from Church with their Friends and Relations, were obliged to cross over a little Bridge, the Stream of which was extraordinary swelled and grown very rapid; the Men pass'd over first, but as the Women who attended the Bride were following them, the Bridge gave Way, and they were all drowned, and the poor Bride had a cold Water Grave for her Wedding Sheets:

They write from Paris that a Rencounter has happened on the Coast of France, betwixt a French Ship and one belonging to the States, the Dutchman carrying Thirty Guns, fired upon the Frenchman who carried but six, and kill'd five of his Men, without any Provocation given by the Frenchman; however, the Frenchman escaped without any further Loss, and getting into Quebec, acquainted the Gouvernor with what had happened, who immediately sent out a Frigate in Quest of the Hollander, who had the Luck to light of him, and attacking him, the Hollander struck, after a Fight of about half an Hour, and was carried into Quebec: It doth not appear, that the Hollander had any Order or Commission for what he did; so that it is supposed it proceeded only from his taking too great a Dose of Dutch Courage, alias Brandy, and the Thing will have no other Consequence, more than the Dutchman to be punished when he is sober, for what he did when he was drunk.

Some of the Ostriches lately imported hither from Barbary, are dead already; and 'tis probable the others will, e'er long, be so too, having not been us'd in the African Fields to that Confinement and Manner of Diet they are now like to meet with; and being a great Part naked, they will scarce be able to bear our Winter Cold: For these Birds wear their Feathers as the Spainards do their short Cloaks, to cover one half of their Bodies:

*Front*

*From the Flying Post, Nov. 19.*

*Petersburg, Nov. 5.* All the Prisons of this City and Cronslot are now empty; none of the Prisoners are condemned; but some of them have been sent to Siberia after receiving the Knoutes, which is stripping them stark naked, and then beating them with Drumsticks, till their Flesh is raw, and as tender as a Beef Stake.

*Stockholm, Nov. 10.* The King had another Fit of the Gravel and Strangury, which held him 24 Hours together; so that he was obliged to keep his Bed for a few Days. On the 5th Instant Mr. Finch, the King of Great Britain's Envoy, received an Express from Hanover.

*From the Whitehall Evening Post, Nov. 19.*

*Madrid, Nov. 9.* An Edict has been published, forbidding all Persons of what Quality soever, to go masked in the Streets, commanding the Officers of Justice to seize all Offenders of that Kind, and to commit them to Prison, from whence they shall not be discharged till they have paid a Fine.

*Petersburg, Nov. 1.* The 27th past in the Evening, their Imperial Majesties returned hither after viewing the Works of the Canal of Ladoga, and giving Orders for furnishing them with all possible Speed. The Treaty concluded with the Ambassador of Persia is not as yet made Publick, although it has been printed by Order of the Court.

*Stockholm, Nov. 10.* The King has been obliged to keep his Bed several Days by reason of a new Fit of the Gravel, and a Retention of Urine during 24 Hours. But his Majesty is now well enough recovered to give Audience to the Foreign Ministers, &c. in his Chamber.

*Prague, Nov. 13.* In the last Hunting which the Court had about Branders, no less than 240 wild Boars were taken.

*Dresden, Nov. 16.* Letters by way of Orsova and Camimael give an Account, that the Turks continue their Preparations of War apparently against the Russians.

*Gobre, Nov. 19.* The King of Prussia, who set out from Berlin on the 10th arrived here the next Day in the Evening, and on the 13th his Majesty took the Diversion of Hunting with the King of Great Britain, the Duke of York, Prince Frederick, and a numerous Retinue. 'Tis believed the Court will continue here till the 24th of this Month.

*Anwerp, Nov. 15.* Tho' the Sharers in our new Company still flatter themselves, that the Emperor will not recall the Patent he has granted them, and the Vessels designed for the Indies will be dispatched according to the Resolutions taken by the Court of Directors; yet the Publick are not very forward to purchase the Actions which are again fallen to Par.

*London, Nov. 19.* We hear, that the Right Honourable the Earl of Searsdale and the Marquis of Carmarthen offer to be Security for his Grace the Duke of Leeds, who is still in the Custody of Captain Cooper.

*From the Evening Post, Nov. 19.*

*London, Nov. 19.* Complaint has been made to the Lords Justices, That on Sunday the 8th of September last, about 10 a Clock at Night, several Persons unknown, armed with Guns and other Weapons, did assault William Russel and George Widmore Warreners of the Warren of Wimbledon, and took Two Guns from them, and did most barbarously beat, and dangerously wound them, and left them bound fast to a Tree; and did also the same Night come to the House of Mr. William Brown in the same Warren, and in a violent and outrageous Manner, break the Windows and Shutters thereof, and shot twice with

with Bullets at a Woman who looked out at a Chamber Window; saying they would murder her; and did also threaten to murder the said William Brown; putting him and his whole Family under great Fear and Disturbance. Their Excellencies the Lords Justices have been pleased to promise a Reward of 100 L to such as shall discover one or more of the Offenders herein, upon their Conviction; and also his Majesty's most gracious Pardon, to any one of the said Offenders, making such Discovery, except him or those who shot into the House.

*London, Nov. 19.* Yesterday the Lords Justices sat at the Cockpit, Whitehall, when they took into Consideration three Bills lately transmitted from Ireland, two of which were reported by their Excellencies.

It is thought the Parliament will sit the Beginning of January, for dispatch of Business.

*Wye's Letter verbatim, London, Nov. 19, 1723.*

*Yesterday arrived a Mail from Holland, by which we have the following Advices.*

**F**rom Constantinople, of the 11th of September, they write, That the Grand Signior had resolved to send 3 Armies into Persia; of which one is to penetrate as far as Ispahan, the 2d is to march to Tauris, and the 3d is to seize on the Province of Erivan. The Reasons alledged by the Turks for this Undertaking, are, That the Monarchy of Persia having no lawful King, the Provinces which formerly belonged to them, and were yielded to the Persians, ought to return to the Porte. As to Meriweys, they regard him no otherwise than as an Usurper. And they say, that the young Sophi who has took upon himself the Title of King, has not lawfully ascended the Throne.

In the mean time the Porte, altho' they look upon Meriweys as an Usurper, has resolved to assist him with all its Strength, in order to dispossess the Czar of his new Conquests; and 'tis assured, that a great Body of Turkish Troops who had joined the Army of Meriweys, keep the Forts of Andreoff closely block'd up.

The Letters from Moscow and Petersburgh give us nothing considerable.

They write from Lisbon, That it was not known what Resolution the King of Portugal would take as to the Proposals that have lately been made on the part of the Emperor, relating to a Treaty of Commerce in favour of the 2 Companies established in his Imperial Majesty's Dominions, one at Vienna & Trieste, and the other in the Austrian Netherlands. For the Service of the last mention'd Company, we are told from Brussels, that an English Vessel of 450 Tuns was arrived at Ostend from the Thames. In the mean time the Stock of that Company is again fallen to Par.

Private Letters from Algiers, of the 1st of September, give an Account, that most of the Rovers were then out at Sea, some of them beyond their Time: That no Prizes had been brought in there for six Weeks, except a Portuguese Ship bound for Lisbon to the Braziles, worth 40000 Dollars.

Our Merchants have an Account, That the Princeps, Captain Wichsted, from Guinea, was arrived at Barbadoes, and had the Misfortune to be plundered near that Island by Lawder the Pyrate the 15th of September.

The Reverend Dr. Nailor, Chancellor and Prebendary of Salisbury, is made Deputy Clerk of the Closet to his Majesty, under the Bishop of Winchester.

The Reverend Dr. Godolphin, Dean of St. Paul's, we hear, has given 4000 L. to augment poor Benefices. This is a very good Example, and worthy of Imitation.

This Day the seven Blacks, so called, were brought to the King's Bench-bar; and Mr. Justice Eyre, before whom they were try'd, after reciting their particular Crimes and the Hainousness of them, said they were such as call'd for Vengeance, and an inflexible Relentment of public Justice; and after a learn'd and divine Exhortation for them to prepare themselves for Death, pass'd Sentence of Execution on them all.

Yesterday the Lords of the Admiralty, pursuant to the Orders they received that Day from the Ghore, gave Directions for the Yachts and Convoy that are to attend his Majesty in his Passage, to sail furthwith to Helvoetsluys.

'Tis look'd upon as certain, that Mr. Justice Eyre will be made Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer; and 'tis talk'd, that the new Judge is likely to be Mr. Reeves.

Yesterday Complaint was made against one of the Tipstaffs of the King's Bench, for taking Money to enter Persons Names, in order to their receiving the Oaths; and the Court obliged him to refund the Money, fined him 10 L. and committed him to the King's Bench Prison.

The Duke of Leeds continues in the Custody of Capt. Cowper.

The King and Prince Frederic designed to arrive at Hanover from Ghore the 24th Instant, N. S.

'Tis generally believ'd, that the Parliament will sit for the Dispatch of Business in January next.

Capt John Aitken, Secretary of War for Scotland, being lately deceas'd, is succeeded in that Post by his Son John Aitken, and Richard Arnold, Esq; S. Sea Stock, 113, 3 4ths.

## A D V E R T I S E M E N T S.

\* \* \* That upon the Twenty-third Day of December next, in the House of Patrick Herdman Vininer in Edinburgh, in the Writers Court there, between 3 and 4 o'clock in the Afternoon, will be exposed to voluntar Roup and Sale, a Laigh House or Cellar, consisting of Six Rooms, whereof 4 are Fire-rooms; a back Vault, and a large fore Vault, lying at the Head of Bell's Wynd. The Conditions of Roup and Progres of the Writ are to be seen in the Hands of Andrew Geddes Writer in Edinburgh, at his House at the Bank-closes-head.

## E D I N B U R G H:

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